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August 1, 2017

**Via ECF**

Honorable Ronnie Abrams  
United States District Judge  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York  
40 Foley Square  
New York, New York 10007

**Re: United States v. Galanis, et al., No. 16-cr-371 (RA)**

Dear Judge Abrams:

The undersigned represents Michelle Morton in the above-captioned matter. I write in response to the Court's order scheduling a conference for August 3, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. Ms. Morton respectfully requests that the Court excuse her personal appearance at this Thursday's conference for reasons relating to her health.

Ms. Morton suffers from Lupus, which is a chronic inflammatory disease that causes, among other symptoms, severe episodes of swelling and pain in the joints, skin, kidneys, brain, heart, and lungs. Ms. Morton is currently experiencing what is known as a "flare" during which certain symptoms are at their peak, including swelling and numbness in her extremities, bleeding, and extreme fatigue. For this reason, Ms. Morton is unable to travel into Manhattan for the status conference.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that Ms. Morton's personal appearance at this Thursday's conference be excused. I am available at the Court's convenience to answer any questions the Court may have.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Morvillo', is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name 'Greg Morvillo' is printed in a black, sans-serif font.

Greg Morvillo

cc: All counsel of record (via ECF)